LIBRARY

MINISTRY OF HEALTH LIBRARY

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF BELLINGHAM.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND SANITARY INSPECTOR

FOR 1947.

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF BELLINGHAM.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND SANITARY INSPECTOR

FOR 1947.

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF BELLINGHAM.

ANNUAL REPORTS OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH AND SANITARY INSPECTOR.

1947.

OFFICERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health. (Part-time)	Dr. G.M.L. Kirk, M.B., Ch.B.
Sanitary) Housing) Inspector. Meat)	S. Clough. M.R.San.I. M.S.I.A. Resigned 16.8.47. A. Field. M.R.San.I. M.S.I.A. Appointed September, 1947.
Clerk Typist.	Miss E. Turnbull.
Offices.	Council Offices, BELLINGHAM, Hexham.
Telephone: Dr. Kirk	Bellingham 203.
Council Offices	Bellingham 239.

-----oOo------

ANNUAL REPORT of the MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH for BELLINGHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st. DECEMBER, 1947.

As there have been no changes in the boundaries of the Bellingham Rural District, the area remains the same, 246, 645 acres, or approximately 380 square miles.

The Registrar General's estimate of the average population for the year 1947 is 4,736, showing a fall of 31 from last year.

The number of Inhabited Houses in the area at the end of 1947 according to the Rate Books	1,528
Rateable value	£43,454.
Sum represented by Penny Rate	£172. 13. 6:64.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

There has been no change in the conditions in the area during the year except that forestry work in the upper parts of North Tynedale, Redesdale and Warksburn has continued to expand, with a consequent reduction of farming operations in these areas. Quarry work is only on a very small scale at present. One or two small collieries have remained outside the Nationalised Coal Industry and continue to supply local needs.

EXTRACT FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

	Total.	M.	F.
Live Births, Legitimate.	74.	33.	41.
Live Births, Illegitimate.	5.	2.	3.
Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	16.63		
Stillbirths (all legitimate)	2.	2.	-
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still births)	25.31		

	Total.	M.	F.
Deaths.	74.	34.	40.
Death rate per 1,000 estimated resident population.	15.62		

DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES.

Puerperal Sepsis	Nil.	Total: Nil.
Other puerperal causes	Nil.	

VITAL STATISTICS OF THE WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1946 and 1947.

Name of District - BELLINGHAM.

Year	Population estimated to the middle of each year.	BIRTHS. Uncorrected No.	BIRTHS. Nett. No.	BIRTHS. Nett. Rate.	TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT. No.	TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT. Rate.	TRANSFERABLE DEATHS. Outward.	TRANSFERABLE DEATHS. Inward.	NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT. Under 1 year. No.	NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT. Under 1 year. Rate per 1,000 nett BIRTHS	NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT. At all ages. No.	NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT. At all ages. Rate.
1946.	4,767	49	73	15.31	57	11.95	2	7	3	41.09	64	13.42
1947.	4,736	51	79	16.68	55	11.61	3	22	1	12.65	74	15.62

DEATHS REGISTERED DURING THE CALENDER YEAR 1947 and CAUSES.

CAUSES of DEATH.	NETT DEATHS of RESIDENTS whether occurring within or without the district.		
	MALE.	FEMALE.	TOTAL.
Other forms of Tuberculosis, than pulmonary.	2	-	2
Syphilitic diseases.	1	-	1
Influenza.	1	1	2
Acute poliomyelitis.	-	1	1
Cancer of stomach & duodenum.	3	2	5
Cancer of all other sites.	1	1	2
Diabetes.	-	1	1
Intracranial vascular lesions.	7	5	12
Heart diseases.	11	16	27
Other diseases circulatory system.	2	-	2
Bronchitis.	-	1	1
Pneumonia.	2	1	3
Ulcer of stomach or duodenum.	-	1	1
Appendicitis.	-	1	1
Other digestive diseases.	-	1	1
Road accidents.	1	-	1
Other violent causes.	-	1	1
All other causes.	3	7	10
Totals:	34	40	74

INFANT MORTALITY, 1947.

NETT DEATHS from stated causes at various ages under 1 year.

CAUSE of DEATH.	Acute Nephritis.	Total.
Under one week.	-	-
1-2 weeks.	-	-
2-3 weeks.	-	-
3-4 weeks.	-	-
Total under one month.	-	-
1-3 months.	-	-
3-6 months.	-	-
6-9 months.	-	-
9-12 months.	1	1
Total under one year.	1	1

Death Rate of Infants under one Year of Age.

All infants per 1,000 live Births.	12.65
Legitimate infants per 1,000 live Births.	13.51
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 live Births.	Nil
Deaths from Measles.	Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough.	Nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under two years).	Nil

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

At the beginning of the year there was a widespread epidemic of influenza of a virulent type, and in addition one case of cerebro-spinal fever, and nine cases of measles were recorded.

February saw a considerable improvement, with the exception of the measles epidemic which still continued in Wark.

In March there were still a few cases of measles in the Wark area, and a slight outbreak of whooping cough in Redewater, also one case of scarlet fever.

April saw a considerable improvement, the health of the district being good, and there were only a few odd cases of measles.

In May the measles epidemic had practically died out and the general health of the community was good. This continued through June, with the exception of a few mild cases of whooping cough in Billingham, but in July there was considerable deterioration, the general health of the district seemed poor, and 14 cases of whooping cough were reported in Billingham.

The whooping cough epidemic died out in August as suddenly as it started, and there were no more infectious diseases throughout September.

In October we had one case of infantile paralysis, and also one case of louping ill. This latter disease is common in sheep, but believed to be very rare in human beings, and it was the first known case in this area so far as I am aware. As another case has occurred more recently in the area, the question arises as to whether the virus of this disease is taking on characteristics which affect human beings.

In November there was one case of diphtheria in a girl who had been immunised. The disease was very mild but as she was a persistent carrier, she was sent to hospital and had her tonsils removed.

In December there was nothing to report beyond two mild cases of whooping cough.

CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Sulphonamides still play a prominent part in the treatment of many infectious diseases. Scarlatina antitoxin has in the past proved very valuable. Probably 85% of the children of school age have been immunised against diphtheria, and a large number have had a second dose on entering school. The fact that there has been only one case of diphtheria proves the efficacy of this method.

DISEASE.	Total cases notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total deaths.
Diphtheria.	1	1	Nil
Pneumonia.	6	Nil	1
Measles.	34	Nil	Nil
Chickenpox.	2	Nil	Nil
Cerebro-spinal fever.	1	1	Nil
Whooping cough.	37	1	Nil
Scarlet Fever.	1	Nil	Nil
Acute Poliomyelitis.	1	1	1

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

Laboratory Facilities - The County Laboratory at Newburn continues to carry out all necessary investigations.

Ambulance Facilities - The Red Cross ambulance covers most of the Rural District, with the exception of the eastern part and part of Wark.

Nursing in the Home - is still efficiently carried out by five district nurses.

Treatment Centres and Clinics - The County Council Maternity and Child Welfare Clinic, under Dr. H. Glen-Davison, is held each month on the second Thursday.

Hospitals - there are no hospitals in the area.

Signed: G.W. Kirk.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT

(Sanitary Officer's Order 1926 Art. 19 (15).

	Number of Inspections during the year.	Number of Defects or Contravention of Byelaws.	Number outstanding from previous year.	TOTAL.	Number remedied after Letter or Interview.	Number of Informal Notices Served.	Defects remedied thereafter.	In progress or being dealt with.	Legal Proceedings.	Number of Statutory Notices served.	Defects remedied thereafter.
	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	11.
HOUSING.											
Structural Defects.	142.	82.	-	142.	43.	37.	34.	3.	Nil	Nil	Nil
Defective food store.	1.	1.	-	1.	1.						
Dampness.	16.	16.	-	16.	16.						
Overcrowding.	4.	4.	-	4.	-						
Nuisances.	26.	26.	-	26.	26.						
WATER SUPPLY.											
Insufficient.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unsatisfactory.	12.	-	-	12.	-	-	-	-	-		-
DRAINAGE.											
Insufficient.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Defective.	-	10.	-	10.	10.	-	-	-	-	-	-
SANITARY CONVENIENCES.											
Insufficient.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Defective.	-	15.	-	15.	15.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Shops, Food Stores, etc.	117.			117.							
Dairies, Cowsheds, Milkshops.	27.			27.							
Slaughter Houses.	-										
Tents, Vans, etc.	25.			25.							
Offensive Trades.	-										
Workshops and Workplaces.	3.			3.							
Keeping of Animals.	-										
Insanitary Ashpits and Receptacles.	22.	14.		22.							
Ashpits improperly used.	-										
Offensive Accumulations.	-										
Smoke Nuisances.	-										
Petrol Stores.	19.										
TOTALS:	414.	168.	-	420.	111.	37.	34.	3.	-	-	-

HOUSING (CONSOLIDATED) REGULATIONS, 1925.

Tabular Statement as required by Art.31, for year 1947.

HOUSES ERECTED DURING THE YEAR:-

		With State Assistance.	Unaided.	Total.
a.	By the Local Authority.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
b.	By any other bodies or persons.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.

1. INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR:

1. a.	Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	142.
b.	Number of inspections made for the purpose.	142.
2 .a.	Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head 1 above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925.	Nil.
b.	Number of inspections made for the purpose.	Nil.
3.	Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.	Nil.
4.	Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under sub-head preceding) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.	26.

2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.

Number of defective houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by Local Authority or its officers. 37.

3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS.

A. PROCEEDINGS under Sections 9,10 & 16 of Housing Act,1936:-

1. Number of dwelling houses in respect of which "notices" were served requiring repairs. Nil.

2. Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:-

a. By owners.	Nil.
b. By Local Authority in default of owners.	Nil.

B. PROCEEDINGS under Public Health Acts:-

1. Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied.	37.
2. Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:	
a. By owners.	Nil.
b. By Local Authority in default of owners.	Nil.

C. PROCEEDINGS under Sections 11 & 13 of the Housing Act,1936:-

1. Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made.	Nil.
2. Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders.	Nil.

D. PROCEEDINGS under Section 12 of the Housing Act,1936:-

1. Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made.	Nil.
2. Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit.	Nil.

4. Number of houses permanently discontinued as dwellings and not included above.	Nil.

SUMMARY OF WORKS EFFECTED.

	After letter or interview.	After informal notice.	After Statutory Notice.	TOTAL.
SANITARY CONVENIENCES.				
Privies abolished	-			-
Privies repaired.	-			-
Privy ashpits abolished.	4			4
Privy ashpits roofed or repaired.	-			-
Pail closets abolished.	3			3
Water closets provided.	3			3
Water closets repaired.	4			4
Sanitary bins provided.	12			12
Sanitary bins renewed.	18			18
DRAINAGE.				
New drains constructed.	6			6
Drains repaired or reconstructed.	12			12
Additional gullies provided.	14			14
Old gullies replaced.	-			-
Scullery sinks provided.	4			4
Scullery waste pipes repaired.	18			18
Scullery waste pipes trapped.	-			-
Yards repaired or reconstructed.	3			3

WATER SUPPLY.

Sources closed or discontinued	Nil.	No. houses affected.	Nil.
New service provided.	4.	No. houses affected.	32.

RIVER POLLUTION.

Cases detected.	2.	Particulars.	Both L.A.'s undertakings.
Remedied.	Nil.	do.	
S.D.Works provided.	Nil.	do.	

FOOD INSPECTION.

UNSOUND FOOD.		Surrendered.	Seized.	Legal Proceedings.
1. Beef(Home killed)	Stones:	-	-	-
2. Imported Beef	"	2.	-	-
3. Mutton(Home killed)	"	-	-	-
4. Mutton(Imported)	"	-	-	-
5. Pork.	"	-	-	-
6. Game.	Lbs.	-	-	-
7. Poultry.	"	-	-	-
8. Fish.	"	-	-	-
9. Fruit.	Lbs. or cases.	25	-	-
10. Canned Goods.	"	42	-	-
11. Bacon.	Lbs.	-	-	-
12. Cheese.	"	-	-	-
13. Butter.	"	1½	-	-
;4. Lard.	"	-	-	-
15. Other foods.	"	114	-	-

MILK AND DAIRIES ORDER, 1926

Sections 6(1) and (4).

Number of cowkeepers (registered) in district.	74.
Approx. number of cows kept.	444.